



OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

2800 S Lone Tree Rd  
Flagstaff, AZ 86005-2701  
PH: 928-226-4219  
FAX: 928-226-4110  
[finaid@coconino.edu](mailto:finaid@coconino.edu)

# REQUEST FOR INDEPENDENT STATUS (2021-2022 Academic Year)



Scan the code on your phone and follow instructions to upload this document to CCC.

CCC ID#		Last Name		First Name		MI
Mailing Address				City	ST	Zip Code
Phone # (include area code)		CCC Student Email Address @students.coconino.edu				

The purpose of this appeal is to evaluate students who do not meet the independency criteria on the FAFSA but believe they should be considered independent due to extenuating circumstances.

**Examples of extenuating circumstances:**

- Documented case of abuse in household confirmed by police, court, counselor or medical records
- Parents deemed unfit to care for student as documented by police, court, counselor or medical records
- Student was legally removed from parent's home as documented by police, court or counselor records
- One parent is deceased or incarcerated and the other parent abandoned student and has no contact

**Examples of circumstances that are not criteria for approval:**

- Student lives in a separate place from parents
- Parents do not claim student on their taxes
- Parents refuse to help pay for student's education
- Student has sufficient income to pay their own bills
- Student doesn't talk to parents or get along with them
- Parents refuse to complete their portion of the FAFSA
- Student voluntarily left parent's home
- Parents live in another country (unless student is a refugee)

**Provide the following five items of documentation with this appeal (Appeals without documentation will be denied):**

- A letter written by student explaining:
  - The events which led to separation from parents.
  - How student supports self and for how long student has supported self.
  - List all support received (money, housing, food, insurance, cell phone etc.) and who provides it.
- Third party substantiating documentation (one or both of the following):
  - Copies of police, court or medical records pertaining to the situation.
  - Signed and dated letter from a professional (clergy, counselor, teacher, etc.) on letterhead that substantiates the situation.  
*A letter from a friend or family member is generally not acceptable.*
- Copy of student's 2019 Tax Return Transcript (if student filed taxes in 2019)
- Copy of student's 2019 Verification of non-filing from the IRS (if student did not file taxes in 2019)
- Copy of student's 2019 W-2's (if student worked in 2019)
- Independent Verification Worksheet

**If you were approved to be an Independent student in the 2020-2021 academic year at CCC please check one of the following:**

- The special circumstances under which I was granted Independency status in 2020-2021 have not changed. (Skip items 1 & 2 above. Complete items 3-5)
- My circumstances have changed. Please attach documentation of changes along with a personal letter of explanation. (Complete steps 1-5 above)

Allow 2 weeks after this appeal is submitted for a decision. If a decision has not been made on your appeal by the payment deadline, you must make payment or sign up for the College Payment Plan; or your classes will be dropped for non-payment.

I certify that information provided on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. Purposely giving false or misleading information may result in a delay or denial of my federal financial aid and I may be fined up to \$20,000, sent to prison or both. I hereby provide consent for the use of electronic records and signatures on all financial aid documents. I understand that if I choose to sign electronically, my electronic signature constitutes a binding contract and may not be denied legal effect, validity, or enforceability solely because it is in electronic form or because an electronic signature or electronic record was used in its formation.

Student Signature and Date

[How do I create a digital signature with Adobe?](#)

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